Attorney's Docket No.: 07844-424001

#4

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Christopher P. Hondl et al. Art Unit : 2621
Serial No. : 09/880,085 Examiner : Unknown
Filed : June 14, 2001
Title : DATA COMPRESSION SYSTEM AND TECHNIQUE

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231



**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Prior to examination, please amend the application as follows:

In the specification:

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 5 with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- The process 100 operates by identifying a base color of the current pixel (step 112). The base color may be identified using an error diffusion technique. In this technique, the base color is dependent on the true color of the current pixel and a dither value of the current pixel, the dither value being a function of error values in the neighboring pixels. An error value of a pixel is a representation of how well a true color of that pixel matches a true color from the color table. Therefore, the dither value takes into account a total error in the color approximations of neighboring pixels. In other words, an error value at a pixel is distributed among other pixels in the image. ~~One example of an error diffusion technique is the Floyd-Steinberg algorithm.~~ --

In the claims:

Amend claim 1 as follows:

1. A method for compressing an image, the method comprising:

receiving an image, the image being defined by pixels, each pixel having a true color, for decompresssion by a selected dictionary-based decompression technique;

receiving a color table that defines a mapping from true colors to index color values;